Smith, George Oswald (Assistant professor of Latin – Roll of Service) July 1917 - June 1918

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Smith, George Oswald
Assistant professor of Latin - Roll of Service
July 1917 - June 1918

University of Toronto
TORONTO, CANADA

ROLL OF SERVICE

July 25. 1917.

Dear Mr. President.

I am sorry to trouble you in your holidays, but there are a few matter connected with the Roll of Service about which I have been wanting to speak to you; - as I understand you will not be here for some time, I think I must write in the meantime.

1. The Varsity. The editors want to include in their photographic record some members of the attached colleges, e.g. Pharmacy, O.A.C., who are not on the University list. I pointed out that the original understanding was that they should confine themselves to any list. But this was before we abandoned the idea of publishing the names of members of these colleges unless they were at the same time registered in the University. Grant & Childs pointed out to me that the University does recognize such students to the extent of granting them votes for representatives on the Students' Council, & they think that they should be entitled to a place in the volume published by that Council. I think the claim is a reasonable one, & I agreed that they should get your consent, & also that they should make it quite clear in a preface wherein their list differs from mine; & I would do the same in my preface. I told them that I would speak or write to you about the matter, & that if you agreed that would be sufficient, but that if you had any objections I would arrange a meeting for them with you when you are again in Toronto.

2. Will you let me have your Preface to the Roll, some time in August. I am working out my introduction, & will send you a copy for revision or approval.

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3. I am in correspondence with Mr. Darling of Chicago, with regard to enlistment in the American forces. He has given me the names of graduates in various centres of the U. S. A. who may be able to provide me with names. I told him that we were too far advanced with this edition, to be able to include many such names; but that I would make a special effort to get them for the first Supplement.

4. I have not yet chosen a cover for the Roll. I am waiting till Mr. Jeffreys returns to Toronto, as I think he may be able to suggest a good design.

5. We are now hard at work copying the Roll, & I hope to get it all into the Press during the next 3 weeks or so; - of course it will take quite a time in the Press, but I hope to have most of it off my mind before term opens. I have thought I had better keep hard at it now, so as to "get clear" of the first edition before term begins. There will be a good deal of work getting the Latin copies arranged & started owing to our circumstances this next year. If I find I need a bit of a holiday later in the year, I think I can ask for it without disturbing arrangements too much, when once the "machinery" of the Latin work gets started in October.

6. Miss MacGillivray goes for her holiday on Aug. 1st. I have secured Miss Jones for August. The Doctor advises that Miss M. should have two months' holiday, as she is

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not very robust it seems. Her sister had to go to Swanwhurst, so it naturally they are anxious to keep Miss M. in good health. The understanding at present is that Miss M. should pay her substitute for September. I do not know whether the University would be willing to pay part of this, virtually giving Miss M. an extra period as leave of absence. There is no hurry about this matter, but as I am writing to you about various things, I thought I had better mention it.

J. W. Campbell tells me that my Old room on the History staircase may be needed for the Flying Corps next session. Of course I am quite willing to give up a room for public needs: but I feel that I shall decidedly need a room, or a share in one, for my Latin work, as it cant be done in the Roll of Service Office, (which I have moved to Dr. Johnston's Old room as being more central).

P.S. While I am thinking about all these things, may I mention this. Could not the University give the degrees of B.A. etc. honoris causa to all those who have fallen? Many of them would by now have won them, some with high honours. There might be some difficulty about former students who left some time ago; - but ~~apart from that~~, perhaps it would not be serious.

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I think it would be very gratifying to their parents, & we have the precedent already for degrees granted posthumously.

I really must apologize for writing at this length & that too, late on a hot night when my head is none too clear! Most of these matters do not call for an immediate reply. I can see you when you are next in town. Except for week ends, I shall be here pretty well all the time; but I will be glad if you will send me a line to say when you are returning, so that I can be sure to be here. I am sleeping at Major Beedle's; - as we are both "guest visitors" it makes a very convenient arrangement & means I have not far to go to College each day.

Yours sincerely

J. Oswald Smith.

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Invitation List.

Major P. P. Acland, 15th Battalion.
Pte. J. P. Aikenhead, P.P.C.L.I.
C. C. Anderson, C.A.M.C.
† W. S. Arthur.
Lieut. W. H. B. Bevan, C.E.
Lieut. N. J. Bicknell, 24th Battalion.
Capt. G. Mel. Brock, C.A.M.C.
* Sec. Lieut. H. C. Buchanan, East Surreys.
‡ Major A. L. Burch, Chaplain.
* Capt. W. B. Caswell, Chaplain.
Lieut. C. Clark, C.M.R.
* Lieut. T. K. Creighton, 75th Battalion.
E. Leroy Cody, C.A.M.C.
Sergt. H. C. Cruickshank, C.A.M.C.
Capt. C. R. B. Crompton, C.A.M.C.
Lieut. J. H. Curzon, C.E.
† * J. L. Cavanagh.
† * W. D. S. Cross.
† C. Cowan.
† J. A. Dickson.
‡ Lieut. S. N. Dixon, 58th Battalion.

Lieut. M. Denison, American Ambce.

Lieut. J. H. Douglas, C.M.R.

Capt. W. R. DaCosta, R.F.C.

* Lieut. W. S. Duncan, 10th Battalion.

G. C. Ellis, P.P.C.L.I.

Lieut. C. B. Ferris, C.E.

Capt. A. Fletcher, C.A.M.C.

‡ Surgeon-Gen. J. T. Fotheringham.

Sergt. F. W. Forge, C.A.M.C.

* Lieut. G. M. Fraser, 1st Battalion.

* Lieut. R. A. Fraser, C.E.

Capt. R. E. Gaby, R.A.M.C.

Capt. J. G. Gallie, C.A.M.C.

* Sec. Lieut. S. D. Gardiner, R.F.C.

Capt. E. M. Gladney, 50th Battalion.

Flight Lieut. G. A. Gooderham, R.N.A.S.

Lt.-Col. Walter Gow,

Lieut. A. D. Gray, M.G.Corps.

Lt.-Col. E. B. Hardy, D.S.O., C.A.M.C.

Lieut. M. R. Helliwell, R.F.C.

Lieut. R. C. Hays, 26th Battalion.

Lieut. C. S. L. Hertzberg, C.E.

Lieut. C. K. Hoag, C.M.R.

Capt
~~Lieut~~. R. Hodder Williams, P.P.C.L.I.

Lieut. W. D. Hudson, Hvy.Artillery.

W. B. Hume, C.A.S.C.

Capt. S. H. Johnston, 19th Battalion.

Sub-Lieut. M. N. Kirkup, R.N.V.R.

Lieut. G. V. Laughton, M.C., Northumberland Fus.

* Capt. F. P. Lloyd, 44th Battalion.

Capt. A. E. McCulloch, R.A.M.C.

Gnr. K. D. McDonald, C.F.A.

Lieut. W. S. McClinton, M.C., 18th Battalion.

* Lieut. F. H. McCallum, 75th Battalion.

Capt. A. H. McFarlane, C.M.R.

Lieut. P. D. McIntosh, Infantry.

L-Cpl. J. E. McGillivray, 28th Battalion, and C.A.M.C.

* Capt. W. C. McNaught, 21st Battalion.

Major R. McNamara, Chaplain.

Lt.-Col. C. S. McVicar, C.A.M.C.

Lt.-Col. Donald McGillivray, C.A.M.C.

‡ Lieut. H. E. Machell, 19th Battalion.

Capt. C. K. Masters, Chaplain.

Capt. F. Marani, 3rd Battalion.

* Gnr. D. M. Masson, C.F.A.

* Cpl. A. R. Mendizabal, C.F.A.

* Lieut. K. Mickleborough, 3rd Battalion.

Capt. V. H. K. Moorhouse, C.A.M.C.

* Sergt. D. W. G. Murray, C.F.A.

Capt. P. N. O'Sullivan, R.A.M.C.

Lieut. G. S. O'Brian, R.F.C.

* Capt. C. S. Oke, Chaplain.

Lieut. N. F. Parkinson, C.F.A.

Capt. H. Parke, M.C., 20th Battalion.

Lieut. R. W. Parke, 58th Battalion.

Gnr. G. H. S. Ramsey, C.F.A.

G. D. L. Rice, 3rd. Battalion.

Lieut. W. B. Redman, C.E.

Lieut. N. H. Russell, 18th Battalion.

Lieut. Guy Rutter, C.M.R.

* Col. E. S. Ryerson, C.A.M.C.

† * E. C. Shaver.

Sergt. W. B. Steinhauer, C.A.M.C.

* Lieut. R. S. Stone, R.F.C.

Major D. H. Stomms, C.F.A.

Lieut. W. W. Stratton, R.F.C.

* Sergt. A. W. Switzer, 58th Battalion.

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Lieut. Sinclair Kerby Johnston, University College 1919, Lent Lent Nort., who was reported missing on May 20th, is now reported to have died as a prisoner in German hands.

Father - Mr Adam Johnston, 15 Grandale Ave., Toronto.

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J Lieut. A.F.R.W. Swinnerton, (Applied Science 1912-1), of the 75th Battalion, who has been missing since March, is now officially reported as prisoner in Germany.

Father- Mr. J.J. Swinnerton (Victor) lives at 31 Avenue Road. A Brother L.A.S. (also an Applied Science student) is in France in the Artillery.

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Lieut. James Melvon Cunningham, R.A.F.C. & R.F., Royal Flying Corps, has died of wounds after a month's service in France. Was an officer in the U.S.S., then reverted to rank of Sergeant, to act as Instructor in the Machine Gun School of this District. Transferred to the R.F.C. last spring. His brother is Capt. J.T.Cunningham, M.B., of this District who has just left for his home in Moose Jaw -1024 Pendozac Ave. Father, Dr. Andrew Cunningham.

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DEPARTMENT OF LATIN

Dec. 8, 1915

Dear Mr. President.

I have received a letter from the father of Lec. Lieut. Robert Edward Taylor, R.F.C. - Applied Science 1917 - saying that he was reported missing on Sept. 17, and that a War Office Cable in November states that he has been unofficially reported as killed. From the extracts which Mr. Taylor quotes from a letter sent by his son's Commanding Officer, describing the fight, and from what he says himself, I gather that he has given up all hopes of his son being alive.

Father. Mr. W. J. Taylor, South Woodslee, R.R. 2.

Yours sincerely G. O. Smith

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Dear Mr. Bridges. Jan. 16. 1918.

I have been thinking over the matter we were speaking of the other day. Do you mind if I try to express myself in writing, as I can generally do so better than in conversation. I am going into rather lengthy detail, but as one or two [illegible] are involved which in any case would come up later, I may as well deal with them now and give you time to consider them at your leisure.

Though the strain of bringing out the first edition of the Roll is over, I do not find that there is as much "let up" as I expected. As soon as the work of sending out the Roll is over, we shall have to begin trying to trace out the hundreds of people from whom we did not receive replies. Then is the daily reading of the journals, looking for casualties, honours etc. (Some part of this is done in the Registrar's Office), and in turn the preparation of news for the press, correspondence, watching for returned men, etc. I could not enumerate all the details. Of course most of this Miss Macgillivray sees to & it keeps her fully occupied, and I have temporary additional help for sending out the Roll. But in addition various matters come up, especially in connection with the killed, which I feel I must see to myself & which generally involve a good deal of personal correspondence. I am trying to let some of this alone for the present, having some lost way in teaching to make up, but shall take it up again in April. This continuous revision of the Roll, with a view to an interim Supplement, and also a final edition, will of course go on for an indefinite period.

However, with this part of the War Record alone in hand, I can manage. Thanks to the kindness of my colleagues I have only 8 lectures a week - though even so I feel I am not doing full justice

to the students in everything that comes outside of lectures.

If by next session, beginning possibly before that, I take up the work of preparing and editing (perhaps practically myself writing) the War Book. (i.e. the narrative record of the Hospital, the O.T.C. etc.), then I do not think I can manage to do as much teaching as now. In fact I could, I think, do pretty well a full day's work every day on the War Book & Roll alone. I would gratefully ask for "leave of absence", whole or partial, to devote myself to it, if it were not for three considerations.

I do not think I can ask more of my colleagues, especially as there will probably be four full years in Honours next year, in adding more work for them all round.

I would be reluctant to give up teaching altogether. It is my profession, and I am ambitious to keep on with that work and if possible earn promotion in that my department. To give it up altogether for something else even if only for a time, means loss of efficiency. As it is I find it hard to keep up any serious amount of reading.

Under present conditions, I find I need for my family the whole of my professorial salary and in addition the $300. for the Roll of Service work. Would I, in your opinion, be entitled to the same total amount if relieved of much more teaching work?

Perhaps the question could be summarized Thus:- In which way, do you think, can I be of most service during the next year or two, - in the War-record work or in teaching - including reading and study? In so far as they can be combined, what should be the proportions in the division of my time?

I should have said before that I am naturally a slow worker

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3. and probably do not skilfully economize time and labour or methodically 'devolve' work on my assistants. This is a "personal factor" which, I fear, will remain permanent.

Perhaps I am writing this when too much under the influence of the winter [illegible] and the reaction after publishing the Roll! — and you can make allowance for that. But I am finding from experience that I have to watch my health with some care.

With apologies for troubling you at such inordinate length with these personal perplexities.

I am yours sincerely

J. Oswald Smith.

P.S. As the question of teaching in the Latin Department is involved, I am writing shewing this letter to Principal Hutton.

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keeping the Roll up to date etc., and the first stages in preparing the larger book.

To secure uniformity and proper proportions I would prefer to be responsible for the actual writing of the narrative, after obtaining all available documents and of course, consulting with those who have actually been engaged in the various services.

J. O. Smith

Chapters in the Narrative Account.

1. A general account which would include a number of items not calling for whole separate chapters --e.g. the uses of the University buildings, civilian services of members of the staff, instructors sent to U.States colleges, etc.
2. The University Hospital -a-in Salonica, b-in England. -To include a Roll of all members of that unit, whether members of the University or not, especially the nurses.
3. The Hospital Supply Association.
4. The C.O.T.C. a-as a Militia Unit; b- as an active service unit, i.e. the Overseas Training Company.
5. The 67th Depot Battery, with a reference to the 25th, 26th, and 43rd Batteries.
6. The Universities Companies of the P.P.C.L.I.
7. The Divisional Signal Companies.
8. The Anti-Toxin Laboratory etc.
9. Re-educational work.

To each chapter might be added a bibliography of articles in the various journals etc., for those wishing for fuller details. The chapters themselves should not be very long.

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June 18. [1918]

Dear Mr. President.

As the Principal is still away, I am writing to recommend that William George Hardy, B.A. (Victoria) 1917, be appointed lecturer in Latin for the Session 1918-1919 with salary of $1000.

Yours very truly
J. Oswald Smith.